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OCI No. 1204/65

CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY  
Office of Current Intelligence  
27 April 1965

## INTELLIGENCE MEMORANDUM

Military and Civilian Casualties in  
South Vietnam

1. Attached as Table 1 are statistics on casualties sustained by the Viet Cong and government forces since the beginning of the year. The figures for wounded in action on the government side have been isolated from the killed in action and missing in action categories so as to give a greater comparability with casualties on the Viet Cong side. (No wounded in action statistics are available for the Viet Cong.)

2. Firm statistics on civilian victims of Viet Cong terrorism have been available in Washington only since MACV instituted its FISHNET reporting series shortly after the Viet Cong attack on Pleiku in early February. The intelligence community is now embarked on efforts to develop reasonably firm figures for this kind of activity for the preceding years.

3. MACV breaks civilian casualties down into "outrages" and "atrocities," but the criteria Saigon uses to distinguish between these categories are not available in Washington. These figures are attached as Table 2.

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**TABLE 1****Comparison of Viet Cong and Government Personnel Losses Reported by MACV**

| WEEK                 | Government |     |                     |       | Viet Cong               |     |          |                          |
|----------------------|------------|-----|---------------------|-------|-------------------------|-----|----------|--------------------------|
|                      | KIA        | MIA | TOTALS<br>KIA & MIA | WIA   | TOTALS<br>KIA, WIA, MIA | KIA | Captured | TOTALS<br>KIA & Captured |
|                      |            |     |                     |       |                         |     |          |                          |
| 26 Dec 64 - 2 Jan 65 | 350        | 186 | 536                 | (556) | (1092)                  | 324 | 133      | 457                      |
| 2 - 9 Jan 65         | 232        | 153 | 385                 | (467) | (852)                   | 510 | 85       | 595                      |
| 9 - 16 Jan 65        | 146        | 40  | 186                 | (308) | (494)                   | 426 | 86       | 512                      |
| 17 - 24 Jan 65       | 201        | 125 | 326                 | (480) | (806)                   | 546 | 196      | 742                      |
| 24 - 31 Jan 65       | 225        | 100 | 325                 | (524) | (849)                   | 638 | 160      | 798                      |
| 31 Jan 65 - 6 Feb 65 | 42         | 140 | 182                 | (124) | (306)                   | 182 | 49       | 231                      |
| 6 - 13 Feb 65        | 290        | 611 | 901                 | (657) | (1558)                  | 505 | 128      | 633                      |
| 13 - 20 Feb 65       | 212        | 201 | 413                 | (479) | (892)                   | 442 | 39       | 481                      |
| 20 - 27 Feb 65       | 294        | 398 | 692                 | (513) | (1205)                  | 364 | 88       | 452                      |
| 27 Feb 65 - 6 Mar 65 | 232        | 304 | 536                 | (479) | (1015)                  | 498 | 72       | 570                      |
| 6 - 13 Mar 65        | 252        | 239 | 491                 | (485) | (976)                   | 558 | 74       | 632                      |
| 13 - 20 Mar 65       | 103        | 93  | 196                 | (274) | (470)                   | 258 | 106      | 364                      |
| 20 - 27 Mar 65       | 89         | 65  | 154                 | (242) | (396)                   | 325 | 106      | 431                      |
| 27 Mar 65 - 3 Apr 65 | 189        | 110 | 299                 | (386) | (685)                   | 795 | 80       | 875                      |
| 3 - 10 Apr 65        | 155        | 59  | 214                 | (451) | (665)                   | 643 | 134      | 777                      |
| 10 - 17 Apr 65       | 90         | 29  | 119                 | (238) | (357)                   | 260 | 61       | 321                      |

**SECRET****Table 2****Civilian Casualties Reported by MACV**

|          | <u>Outrages</u> |                |                 |
|----------|-----------------|----------------|-----------------|
|          | <u>Killed</u>   | <u>Wounded</u> | <u>Kidnaped</u> |
| February | 33              | 55             | 232             |
| March    | 139             | 145            | 322             |
| April*   | 95              | 164            | 799             |

|          | <u>Atrocities</u> |                |                 |
|----------|-------------------|----------------|-----------------|
|          | <u>Killed</u>     | <u>Wounded</u> | <u>Kidnaped</u> |
| February | 20                | - - -          | - - -           |
| March    | 36                | 96             | 100             |
| April*   | 32                | 168            | - - -           |

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**\*Incomplete**

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